

Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1447

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AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3746

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, APER, UN, WHO

SUBJ: POST OF DIRECTOR OF UN DIVISION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS

REFS: (A) STATE 191008; AND (B) GENEVA 6352

SUMMARY: USYG DAVIDSON PROVIDED AMB MYERSON WITH HIS ASSESSMENT OF CANDIDATES FOR SUBJECT POST. NEW ENTRANT, DR. LING NOW IN WHO, APPEARED TO DAVIDSON TO BE GOOD CANDIDATE. DAVIDSON REQUESTED USUN TO OBTAIN INFO ON LING AS WELL AS USG VIEWS. END SYMMARY.

1. DURING COURTESY CALL ON USYG DAVIDSON BY AMB MYERSON ACCOMPAINED BY MISOFF, STATUS OF SUBJECT POST RAISED BY LATTER. DAVIDSON SAID THAT NO DECISION WOULD BE TAKEN ON MARTENS' REPLACEMENT FOR SOME WEEKS AND AGREED TO CONSULT WITH USUN CLOSELY.

2. REGARDING POSSIBLE CANDIDATES, HE OFFERED THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS: (A) MICUTA, NOW IN DND, APPEARED TO BE QUALIFIED AND DAVIDSON FELT US WRONG TO OPPOSE HIM BUT UNDERSTOOD POLITICAL REASONS; (B) REXED, SWEDISH MEMBER OF NARCOTICS COMMISSION, FAVORED BY WINSPEARE BUT UNLIKELY TO GET POST GIVEN THE FACT THAT MARTENS ALSO SWEDISH AND DEBEUS DUTCH; (C) BRAENDEN HAD

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ONLY OUTSIDE CHANCE SINCE SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ABOUT HIS

ADMINISTRATIVE ABILITY TO HEAD DIVISION EXPRESSED WITHIN SECT BY, AMONG OTHERS, WINSPEARE, MARTENS AND MESSING (PREVIOUSLY WALDHEIM HAD INFORMED NORWEGIAN AMB ALGARD THAT BRAENDEN'S CANDIDACY NOT LIKELY TO FLY); (D) DR. LING, CANADIAN NOW IN WHO WORKING ON NARCOTICS MATTERS, IS LATE ENTRY AND DAVIDSON'S INITIAL REACTION IS THAT HE APPEARS TO BE BEST CANDIDATE; AND (E) BAYER (HUNGARY) AND KANDEMIR (TURKEY) WERE CONSIDERED BY DAVIDSON TO BE NON-STARTERS.

3. DAVIDSON REQUESTED AMB MYERSON TO TAKE A READING ON DR. LING AND TO PROVIDE HIM WITH WHATEVER INFO WE CAN OBTAIN. IF LING QUALIFIED, DAVIDSON SAID HE FELT THAT USG WOULD NOT OBJECT ON BASIS OF NATIONALITY AND ADDED THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT SYG WOULD AGREE AND THUS PROBLEM OF OTHER COMPETING CANDIDATES WOULD BE RESOLVED.

4. EARLIER TURKISH MISOFF INFORMED USUN THAT ANKARA HAD LEARNED THAT BRAENDEN'S CANDIDACY MIGHT BE IN DANGER AND ADDED THAT MICUTA AND BAYER WERE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO GOT. MISOFF COMMENTED, OFF THE RECORD, THAT CONSEQUENTLY GOT CONSIDERING FORMALLY ADVANCING KANDEMIR'S CANDIDACY, BUT IN MEANTIME REQUESTED USG SUPPORT IN PUSHING FOR BRAENDEN.

5. AS INSTRUCTED REF A, MISOFF ADVISED NORWEGIANS OF OUR EARLIER DEMARCHE TO DAVIDSON RE BRAENDEN. NORWEGIAN MISOFF SAID AMB ALGARD HAD DISCUSSED SUBJECT WITH WALDHEIM DURING SUMMER ECOSOC WITH CONCLUSION THAT GON WAS "NO TOO OPTIMISTIC" RE BRAENDEN'S CHANCES. ADDED THAT GON DID NOT PLAN ANY FURTHER INITIATIVE IN KEEPING WITH THEIR TRADITIONAL POLICY OF NOT SUPPORTING INDIVIDUAL CANDIDATES FOR UN POSTS BUT WOULD, OF COURSE, APPRECIATE ANY SUPPORT OF BRAENDEN VOLUNTEERED BY OTHERS.

5. COMMENT: USUN BELIEVES THAT OUR BEST HOPE OF GETTING SATISFACTORY RESULTS IS TO WORK CLOSELY WITH DAVIDSON WHO ATTEMPTING TO GET BEST PERION POSSIBLE FOR DND. IF CANADIAN (LING) QUALIFIED, WE BELIEVE THAT USG BE WELL ADVISED TO THROW ITS WEIGHT BEHIND HIS CANDIDACY. CONFIDENTIAL

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6. ACTION REQUESTED: US MISSION GENEVA AND DEPT TAKE READING ON LING AND PROVIDE USUN WITH INFO OBTAINED SO WE CAN PASS ON TO DAVIDSON. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE LEARNING USG ATTITUDE TOWARD LING CANDIDACY VIS-A-VIS OTHER CANDIDATES, SO WE CAN INFORM DAVIDSON. BENNETT

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